



REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

MINISTRY FOR THE CO-ORDINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

National Directorate for Environmental Management

To: CBD SECRETARIAT
Montreal, Canada

Maputo, 17 November, 2007

Subject: Views and experiences for the in dept review of work on Invasive alien Species

Dear Madame/Sir,

Pursuant to Notification 2006-116, as well as the letter from the Global Invasive Species Programme, I would like to use this opportunity to submit the Views and experiences for the in dept review of work on Invasive alien Species in country.

Mozambique became a Part to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1995. The country published its National Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 2003. The NBSAP raises concerns regarding Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and proposes measures to address their spread.

As a member State of Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), the country carried out from 2003 to 2006 the exercises on IAS databases, training needs and existing centres of Excellencies. A report produced under the SADC Biodiversity Support Programme revealed that Mozambique has both terrestrial and aquatic IAS. The species include:

Santhium spinosum, Prostephaus truncatus, Aproaerema modicella, Chilo partellus, Lantana camara, Eichhornia crassipes, Azolla filiculoides, Salvinia molesta, Pistia stratiotes, Chromolaena odorata, Parthenium hysterophorus, Corvus splendens, Cirrhinus chinensis, among others. Although this information is known, Mozambique has not mapped all IAS existing in the country, due to financial constraint.

1. Legislative measures and National polices.

There are no elaborate IAS legislative measures or policies, despite the NBASP recommend actions to prevent introduction, control and eradicate IAS. However, the country is drafting a National regulation to prevent and control spreading of IAS.

2. Management

Mozambique has established a technical expert group and Centres of Excellencies to lead the IAS issues and defined the needs to undertake training and public awareness. Though such initiatives and efforts, these can not be implemented due to lack of resources.

3. Assessment:

Under SADC Biodiversity Support Programme (BSP) the country created basis to undertake an assessment through establishment of IAS expert group. A priority defined in this proposal was the identification of critical sites of IAS in the country, including environmental impact assessment study, monitoring system and control of some of them in critical sites. Therefore, this work was not followed due to financial resources.

4. Provision of resources

As a way of averting the resources to undertake some activities to related IAS constraint issue, various proposals have been made including the incorporation of IAS programme into existing activities of relevant institutions, preparing project proposal on policies and mitigation for GEF financing, among others. The last was not succeeded.

5. Communication, education and public awareness

There is a general lack of information and public awareness of threat posed by IAS in the country. Only agriculture sector, water services and private sector have some information and do awareness in terms of plant pathologies. Despite the fact that some government and private sectors are aware on impacts of IAS and solicit support from Ministry of Environmental Affairs, less is being done to control/mitigate the IAS, due to lack of resources.

6. Cooperation.

Mozambique as member state of Southern Africa Development Community benefited support from the Biodiversity Support Programme funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), which received administrative oversight from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and technical support from the World Conservation Union Regional Office for Southern Africa (IUCN-Rosa). Among other things, the SADC Regional Biodiversity Strategy addresses is regional cooperation on issues related to IAS and Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS). Outcome of this programme was establishment of national and regional expert group, identification of needs and institutions that can lead training on matters related to IAS and ABS.

That's all I from Mozambique, expecting that more can be done in close future.

Anselmina L. Liphola
National CBD Focal Point